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REYNOLDS HISTORICAL
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General,
MEMOIR

OF THE

REV. WILLIAM ADAMS,

OF DEDHAM, MASS.,

AND OF THE

REV. ELIPHALET ADAMS,

OF NEW LONDON, CONN.

BY MISS F. M. CAULKINS

CAMBRIDGE:
METCALF AND COMPANY,

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1849.

HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS.

MEMOIR OF THE REV. WILLIAM ADAMS,
OF DEDHAM, MASS.,

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THE REV. ELIPHALET ADAMS,
OF NEW LONDON, CONN.

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THE principal object of this Memoir is, to combine in one narrative the memorials that exist of the father, son, and grandson, — worthy ministers of the Gospel, of three generations. Unlike most of the families of the early emigrants to New England, the male branch in this line of the Adams family runs out, and the name becomes extinct in the sixth generation. This allows of more unity and completeness in the Memoir, than can be obtained in those genealogical histories which spread out as they descend, enlarging and interlacing, till they become so complex and various, as to be almost if not altogether inextricable.

The sources whence information has been derived, when not indicated either in the text or notes, are town and church records, principally of New London, but occasionally of other places in the vicinity of New London; with some aid from tradition. This last source, however, has not been relied on for any date, or for any fact of importance.

F. M. CAULKINS.

New London, January, 1819.

THE name of WILLIAM ADAMS is found on a list of the inhabitants of Ipswich, Mass., in 1642.* He has not been satisfactorily traced any farther backward. William Adams, of Cambridge, 1635, made freeman 13 Dec., 1639,† may have been the same man; but of this no proof has yet been produced.

* Felt's Ipswich, p. 10.

† Farmer.

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A general subscription of inhabitants at Ipswich, in December, 1648, contains the names of William Adams and William Adams, Jun. William Adams died in 1661. William Adams, Jun. died in January, 1659.* It may be assumed with probability that these persons were father and son.† A comparison of other facts makes it also tolerably clear that William Adams, Sen. had three sons who lived to manhood, and probably left posterity, viz:—1. William, who died 1659. 2. Nathaniel, ascertained by Farmer to be son of William, Sen. 3. Samuel, of Ipswich, 1665. (*Vide* Farmer.)

The Rev. William Adams, an esteemed minister of Dedham (ordained 1673), was undoubtedly the son of William Adams, Jun. In a Journal, kept by him, and subsequently to be copied in this Memoir, he refers to uncles N. A. and S. A., who appear to have been the guardians of his minority. This corresponds with our statement of the family. He mentions also a brother by the name of John; and this allows us to proceed a step farther in our list. William Adams, Jun., who died 1659, left two sons, viz.:—1. William. 2. John. The following Memoir will attempt to trace the line of the first named of these sons.

William Adams was born 27 May, 1650. We have his own authority for this date. He does not say *where* this event took place; but in all probability it was at Ipswich. From an allusion in his Journal to his "grandmother Starr," it may be supposed that his mother bore that name; but nothing more respecting her family has been ascertained. If the foregoing statement of his paternity be correct, he was left an orphan at the age of nine years. His means were slender; but being exceedingly desirous of a liberal education, he was assisted by his relatives to enter Harvard College, and was graduated at that institution in 1671. He came from thence with the esteem and respect of his teachers, and with a character for integrity, learning, and piety, that gave a pleasing promise of future usefulness. A con-

* Farmer.

† "William Adams, aged 15," embarked for America in the "Elizabeth & Ann," May, 1635. No other passenger of the name of Adams is on the list of emigrants at that time. It may be worth inquiry, if this were not William Adams, Jun., of Ipswich, left behind by his parents, in their emigration, and now coming out to them. See Gleanings, by James Savage, Esq., Hist. Coll., 3d Series, Vol. VIII. p. 263.

temporary testimony ranks him "among the choicest of the ripe fruits of this young generation"; * that is, of the generation born and educated in the land. He was subsequently settled in the work of the ministry at Dedham, being ordained 3d Dec. 1673. As a scholar and theologian, his attainments were, for that age, highly respectable; and as a man and a pastor, he appears to have been amiable in manners and assiduous in duty. He therefore acquired the love of his people, and, for so young a man, the esteem and confidence of his clerical brethren, in a more than common degree. His work on earth, however, was soon completed; the duration of his ministry was less than twelve years. He died in Dedham, 17 Aug., 1685. Such is an outline of the life of this interesting young pastor. Brief as is this memorial, the biography of the greater part of our first generation of ministers occupies even a shorter space. Of many of them, it is only known that they lived so long, and *died in faith*.

But with respect to Mr. Adams, we can happily go more into detail; for time and barbarism, which have destroyed so many of the precious writings of our Puritan ancestors, have spared to us a memorial of his life, which leads us forward, day by day, slowly but agreeably, through the most interesting portion of his earthly career. We allude to a Journal, or Diary, kept by himself, and not hitherto printed, but carefully preserved, first by his son, the Rev. Eliphalet Adams, of New London, Conn., since by the descendants of the latter, and now in the possession of the Rev. Robert A. Hallam, Rector of St. James's Church, New London.† This Journal is written in a small blank volume, which once had clasps, and is bound in black leather. It contains, perhaps, 400 pages, of which the Journal covers only fifteen. The quantity of matter is, however, considerable; for it is closely written in a small, compressed hand, with every letter neatly formed, and the whole fair, and studiously correct. The remainder of the volume is blank paper, except at the

* See the admirable "Centennial Discourses" of the Rev. Dr. Lamson, of Dedham, p. 40. The passage quoted is from the Preface to a Fast Sermon by Mr. Adams, preached and printed in 1678; which Preface was written by "Mr. Samuel Torrey of Weymouth, and Josiah Flynt of Dorchester, father of the celebrated Tutor Flynt." *Ibid.* Lamson.

† Mr. Hallam is a lineal descendant, through four intervening generations, of the journalist.

latter end, where his son Eliphalet, reversing the book, commenced a similar journal, but did not pursue it beyond a single page.

This Journal is a charming domestic relic of our country's youth. It will be found interesting, not only by those who have an antiquarian taste, but by general readers. As a coeval delineation of manners and customs, illustrations of which are unconsciously interwoven with the artless narrative, it is not without value. But its characteristic feature is, that it quietly sets before us the sober, every-day variations in the life of the young student, and the domestic history of the minister, with the vivid, unexaggerated accuracy of a reflection. The simplicity of the details, and the very minuteness of some of them, invests the narrative with an additional charm, at this distance of time.

With these remarks, we introduce at once the Journal, which is inscribed on the fly-leaf, —

William Adams,
His Book.
Nov. 10. 1670.

p. 1. Anno Christi 1650

May 27. I was born a sinner into an evil world.

p. 2. Anno 1666

June 11. I first went to school to Mr. Andrews: abode with him till Aug. 10. 1667.

1667, Aug. 13. I came down to Cambridge to y^e commencement, sought for admission into colledge, could not obtain it, pecuniæ deerant.

Au. 14. I returned home, lived a disconsolate month at home.

Sept. 20. I came to Cambridge again with my uncle N. A. 21. I was admitted into Colledge.

Nov. 22. I went home to Ipswich afoot.

27. I returned to Cambridge upon Mr. D. Epps's horse, was lost in Charlestowne woods and lay in y^e woods all night, so bewildered I took N. for S. and contra.

1668, June 16. I went to Wenham afoot, lodged y^t night with Mr. Mighill at Wenham ordinary.

17. I went from thence to Ipswich.

July 9. I went to Salisbury, y^e 11th I returned to Ipswich and then first heard y^e sad news of y^e famous Mr. Mitchell's death, who died y^e 10th, leaving Cambr. to a long bereavement.

17. I returned to Cambridge, my brother John accompanying me most part of the way to carry back the horses.

November sometime I went with Mr. Corlet * to Rowley, were out 4 days 3 nights.

p. 3. Anno 1669.

March 20. I went to Wenham y^e next day, being Sabbath; after sermon I went to Ipswich.

25. Was a public fast. After y^e fast about one of y^e clock at night I went aboard Prince's bark to come to Boston.

26. Had a brave passage, came into Boston about 4 of y^e clock in y^e afternoon. I came to Cambridge that night.

October 5. I went to Swanzey with my dear friend Mr. Hez: Willet.

8. We came back to Cambridge.

14. I heard of the death of my grandmother Starr, who died Oct. 9.

23. I went to Ipswich with my uncle S. A.

30. I came to Cambridge with T. Starr to carry back y^e horse.

Jan. 18. I went with my dear friend H. W. to Dedham.

19. We went from thence to Swansey. I fell into Neponset river with one of my feet, it was a bitter cold day. I froze my finger and H. W. his ear: we both had a fall.

24. We came back to Wading river; 25. to Cambridge.

1670. March 30. I went to Swans: with Mr. J. Willet.

April 1. I came back alone to Dedham. 2. to Cambridge.

May 6. I went to Ipswich to carry Seth Flint to School to Mr. And: .

10. I returned to Cambridge.

18. I went to Swans: with H. W. 26. Came alone to Cambridge.

27. H. W. came down to Camb. to the hazard of his life.

* Corlet, his fellow-student, son of the famous pedagogue.

Aug. 10. Were at M. St. — y^e 2 incomparable sist. the 2 Poles about which y^e sky of excellency is turned.

11. I went to Boston, sweat excessively, y^t night first lodged there.

12. I went to Ipswich with some scholars.

17. I went to Salisbury. 19. Came back to Newberry.

20. I came to Ipswich. 25, to Boston, so to Cambridge.

Sept. 27. I received a note from Mr. Nowell to Mr. Danforth for 3[£] due for y^e monitorship, and also 3[£] out of Mr. Web's house.

28. I gave the note to Mr. Danf. received one of him to Mr. Greenlif, Dyer for 3[£] pound out of Mr. Web's house.

29. I received 30^s cash of Mr. Greenlif upon y^e note fores'd. I borrowed H. W's bed and some books of Capt. Willett.

Octob. 6. I received of Mr. Saffin 1[£] 14^s. 0^d. for Mr. Danf. upon y^e full dues of H. W's account.

13. I received of Mr. Greenlif y^e remainder of y^e fore-said note and gave him a receipt: bought a Gouldman's Dictionary, cost 27^s. I paid to Mr. Danf. 1[£] 14^s. 0^d. the full dues of H. W's account, and received a full discharge.

14. My uncle Bu. came to Cambr. brought 2 cows, and gave them me w^c were turned in to Mr. Danf.

15. I went with Mrs. E. W. to ten mile river.

16. Sabbath day we went to Rehoboth, heard Mr. N. H. at night went to Swanzey, and there I met with my long unseen friend Mr. H. Willett.

p. 4. Anno 1670.

October 8. I returned to Cambr. alone yet wanted no company.

27. I was at Boston, saw a thief and an Indian hanged: the Indian turned off singing. I set my hand for a witness to a deed sealed and subscribed by Mr. John Saffin. I gave to Mrs. Saffin a discharge of Hezekiah Willett's accounts in Coll. from Mr. Dan: Stew:

Nov. 2. I saw my good friend Penom. in a miserable exigency and writing a letter to ease his mind w^c at night he covertly sends to Arest. and great part of that night he passed without sleep, and y^e next day very restlessly.

4. J. G. came to Penom with such news wherewith he was appalled; committed his thoughts to writing, passed y^t whole night without a wink of sleep.

5. Penom went to J. G. with y^e writing in his hand, w^c J. G. did &c.

6. The Sabbath day, y^e whole day my good friend Penom was sorely exercised in his mind, besought the throne of grace with teares and earnest prayers to be directed, and to be taught submission to y^e will of God, going to the house of God receives it, records his submission, prayes that he may receive strength to perform it, for he distrusts himselfe: at night he is put upon y^e tryall, receives a charge that he must yield, he quietly submits, returns praise to God for his great goodness and mercy to him, betakes himselfe to his rest.

7. Having lost himselfe in y^e mazes of divine goodness, he applyes himselfe to the Omnipotent One; leaves himselfe with him; where I also leave him to be guided by All-sufficient mercy and enabled to the performance of his solemn engagement.

10. I went to Boston with deacon Chesholme, was warned by him to look for great tryalls ere long, but I have undergone many already, and if these be but preliminaria, well may I tremble to think what the penetralia will be.

12. I began to write out the Charter of New-England for Mr. Thomas Danforth, Assist.

18. I finished y^e writing out y^e Charter of N. E. for Mr. T. D.

21. Mr. Danforth wittingly discoursing with me on y^e liberall Arts, unwittingly instructed me in y^e divine Art. That day I went with Mr. Whiting to Nonantum it being the day of their removal from thence to Cambr.

p. 5. Anno 1670.

Nov. 24. Was a public thanksgiving in y^e Massachusetts Colony in New-England.

Dece 1. Primo aggressus sum compos. conc. ex וַאֲנִי תפלה [Ps. cix. 4] tale quid nunquam ante aggressus.

This day was the first flight of snow this winter it being hardly over shoes.

Dec. 7. Conventum fuit inter seniores Sophistas, ut in nostris singulis cubiculis, qui fuimus ex conspiratione nec nos nec ullus nostrum loqueremur in lingua vernaculâ, sub pœnâ unius oboli, pro unaquâque sententiâ anglicè prolatâ.

8. I made an Analysis upon Matthew 24. to y^e 22. verse

29. I went to Boston from thence to Dorch., detained there by y^e weather 3 days and 4 nights : y^e first night I lodged at Capt. Fost.* with S. Avery who told me of many things, among y^e rest of Nic. Flammel Fran : and of R — Fam : &c. Then I heard of Mr. Flint accepting a call there.

30. 31. Commoratus fui apud M. Mat.

Jan. 1. I heard Mr. Stoughton preach at Dorch. lodged y^t night at Capt. Fost. 2. I came by Bost. to Cambr.

12. J. Taylor sett sail for England to fetch Mr. Oakes : that night following and the next were 2 such bitter nights I could not keep myself warm in bed.

Feb. 2. I was at Boston : y^t night I lodged at Mr. Danf.

7. Mr. Symmes pastor of Charlestown interred.

Anno. 1671

March 1. Was a fast at Cambridge and some other neighboring churches.

9. I was at Boston. 10. Returned home by Roxbury ad visitandū Bowles.

23. I went to Ipswich afoot with S. S.†

31. I returned to Cambridge again.

The 19th of this month began a storm of rain, which continued (with very little intervalls of fair weather) till y^e 3^d of April. So becoming a sad prologue to y^e doleful epilogue of y^e death of y^e ever honored and reall friend to piety and learning, Francis Willoughby Esquire, Deputy Governor of y^e Massachusetts Colony in N. E. who dec^d April y^e 4th, about 4 of y^e clock in y^e morning.

7. Francis Willoughby Esquire was solemnly interred with y^e attendance of 11 foot companys (with y^e doleful noise of trumpets and drums) in their mourning posture all marching, 3 thundering volleyes of shot discharged, answered with the loud roaring of great guns, rending the heavens with noise at y^e losse of so great a man.

p. 6. Anno 1671.

April 11. Mrs. Sarah Manning of Cambridge was married to Mr. Joseph Bull of Hartford. 17. I sent home H. W's bedding and other things.

18. Mr. Bull and his wife went home to Hartford.

* Foster is meant.

† Sewall, afterwards Chief Justice.

May 5. Our class declaimed their last declamations upon y^e four languages Hebr. Gr. Lat. Eng. and y^e 5 senses with an oration salutatory and valedictory.

16. I went to Ipswich for Mr. Thomas Danforth.

19. I came to Cambr. attending on y^e worshipful Richard Saltonstall Esqr.

26. I wrote out 2 letters for y^e worshipful Richard Saltonstall Esqr. to be sent to y^e first and third churches of Boston endeavoring to procure a reconciliation between them. Deus Hoc Cœptum secundet.

29. I went afoot to Roxbury to Mr. Jos. Eliot about y^e same business, from thence to Dorchest. to Mr. Stoughton, thence to Boston to return my answer to y^e author at y^e Gov. Bellingham's, so home.

31. Was Court of Election at Boston. Major Levrite first chos. Dep. Gov. Mr. William Stoughton then first chose Magistrate.

June 28. Mrs. Ruth Angier married to Mr. Sam. Cheevers of Marblehead.

July 3. Mr. Vrian Oakes arrived at N. Eng. to y^e great joy of Cambridge.

4. & 5. Was a general training at Boston.

August 2. Was printed our theses for y^e commencement.

8. I was admitted to y^e degree of Batchelour of Arts in Harvard Colledge in N. E. under y^e Reverend Charles Chancey President.

14. I was at Boston when Mr. Torrey and Mr. Flint were urgent with me to, &c.

15. I went to Ipswich by Salem.

18. I came to Salisbury. 19. I returned to Ipswich. This day deacon Chesholme buried at Cambridge.

23. I returned to Cambridge by Salem.

26. Mr. John Allin pastor of y^e church at Dedham died.

29. Mr. Allin buried—a funeral sermon preached by Mr. Thacher.

Septem. 5. I went to Braintree with Mr. Fl. 7. I returned to Cambr.

22. I went to Mr. Oakes his house to dwell. This day I was at y^e funerall of John Linds of Boston.

Octo. 8. I set my hand for witness to a bond of John Swans to Mr. Sam. Saltonst.

9. About one or two of y^e clock in y^e morning Andrew Belcher Senr. his house was burned. The same day in the evening did — [Left blank.]

p. 7. Anno 1671

Octob. 5. I was at Boston and there heard y^e wellcome news of y^e welfare and return of my friend Mr. Hez. Willet.

12. I was at Boston, there met with Mr. H. W. I returned to Cambr. by Roxbury.

13. I went to Swansey with Mr. H. Willet.

15. At Rehoboth I heard Mr. N. Newman.

16. I rid out with some others to see y^e strange effects of a violent hurricane y^t had been on y^e — of Aug. about a mile and a half from Rehoboth, carrying about 20 rod in breadth, tearing up by y^e roots, or breaking y^e bodyes of almost all trees within its compasse saving only some small and low ones, and it is thought in all probability to have gone 15 miles in length.

19. Was a public thanksgiving throughout y^e colonies of y^e Mass: and Plymouth, myselfe was at Rehoboth.

22. At Swans. I heard Mr. Miles.

23. From Swansey I came with my dear friend Mr. H. W. to Roxbury, from whence he went to Boston, I to Dorchester, lodged with Mr. Flint &c.

24. I went to Bost. thence to Cambr. thence to Bost. again — lodged with my dear friend Mr. H. Wil. at Mr. Safin's.

25. I took my leave of Mr. H. W. who was going to Swans. and I to Cambr. where at night I set my hand for a witness to an indenture w^{ch} Mr. Atkinson gave to Capt. Gookin.

31. I went to Ipswich with Mrs. Flint of Braintree.

Nov. 2. I came to Wenham. 3. to Dorchester. 4. to Cambridge.

8. Mr. Oakes ordained pastor of y^e church at Cambr.

9. I and Mrs. Ruth Flint fell into the water at Cambr. bridge.

10. At evening I received a letter from y^e inhabitants at Westfield to invite me thither to preach, with one from Major Pyncheon and another from Mr. Glover both in their behalf.

14. I went to Boston, lodg'd there with Mr. H. W.

15. I came to Cambr.

24. The first great snow this winter being almost knee deep.

27. I sent my answer to y^e inhabitants of Westfield by Tho. Deney who upō 28. went up and Sr. Taylor with him, to preach there at present.

30. I was at Boston, bought Diodati's Annotations.

Dec. 1. Mr. Chancey Pres. made a common place upon The. 1. Ames. Med.

p. 8. Anno 1671.

Dec. 20. I received of Mr. Danforth 6 yards $\frac{1}{2}$ Searge for a wescoat and riding breeches.

21. Was at Boston. Mr. Oxenbridge and Mr. Allin were soliciting me for Dedham w^c Mr. Oakes before had done.

Jan. 2. Major Lusher and Ensigne Fisher being urgent with me to preach at Dedham 3, engaged me for one day.

5. Mr. No. com. placed.

9. Old Goodman Crackbone of Cambr. died.

22. I went to Dedham. 23. to Swansey to Mr. Flint's wedding.

24. Mr. Josiah Flint married to Mrs. Esther Willett.

25. We came down to Woodcocks and Wading River.

26. To Dorchester.

29. I came to Cambr.

Feb. 17. I went to Dedham, lodg'd at Mr. Dwight's.

18. *Primò concionatus sum apud Dedhamitenses quod priùs nusquam fecissem.* In y^e morning I thought I went like the fool to the correction of y^e stocks, but at night by y^e gracious presence of God with me y^e day in such a solemn work as before I had not been exercised in, I had great cause to praise God for his gracious assistance and regard of me his poor unworthy creature, and have cause of deep humiliation for my unanswerable deportment to all his kindnesses toward me.

[Here is a line in short-hand.]

19. I came to Cambr. w^c day y^e Reverend Mr. Chancey Pres. of Harvard Coll. in Cambr. departed this life about 4 or 5 of y^e clock in y^e afternoon.

21. Mr. Chancey Pres. interred. Mr. Oakes turned his

lecture into a funeral sermon on y^e 2. Kings 2. 12. Mr. Nowell Soci. made a funeral oration in y^e hall.

28. I was at Watertown Lecture, when I came home at night Ensign Fisher and Sergeant Avery were come from Dedham to me with a call from y^e church for me to come to them in order to future settlement, w^c call was by them represented to me as fully unanimous, none opposing, all willing to wait some time, only one desiring y^t I should come immediately.

29. I was at Boston, at night went to Dorchester.

Anno 1672.

March 1. I returned to Boston, so to Charlestown Lecture, thence home.

21. I was at Boston where at Mr. Allin's, Major Lusher, Serj. Avery, Ens. Fish. urged me for an answer to y^e Ch. call to w^c I answered y^t all I could say at present was to entreat them y^t yy would turn their eyes another way for y^t I could not give them any encouragement concerning me, neither finding my mind inclined to take upon me at present y^t work nor seeing the providence of God clearly directing me thereto.

p. 9. Anno 1672.

March 21. But if I must give a positive answer I should desire further time: wherefore I must meet them there again April 11. 1672.

25. I writt a letter for y^e Governor and Mr. Saltonstall drāw up by Mr. Cobbet to be sent to Mr. Knowles for him to be Pres. of our Harvard Coll. w^c I [A word or two in short-hand.]

April 11. I was at Boston, at Mr. Oxenbridge's I met with Dedham men to give them their answer which was to this effect:—That considering their respect as shown to me and their unanimity in their call, I had been ready to wish y^t I were capacitated to accept of their motiop, but since by the providence of God it was otherwise, I must in faithfulness tell them y^t I dare not adventure upon this work.

18. I went to Boston, y^t night watcht with Mr. Nowell who lay sick at Charlestown of a fever.

May 20. I went to Braintree to carry H. O. 21. Returned.

22. A fast kept by y^e General Court at Boston in y^e

Court House, y^e work carried on by 6 ministers, Mr. Whiting, Cobbet, Oxenbridge, Eliot, Oakes, Mather.

June 3. Mr. Oakes preached y^e artillery sermon at Boston.

4. I was taken sick of a fever and ague w^c held me till July y^e 5th.

July 8. Dr. Hoare came in from England.

12. Elder Frost of Cambr. died, out of w^m were taken 6 stones.

13. Died Mr. Alexander Nowel Sen^r Fellow of Harv. Coll. he lay sick of (as is conjectured) an hectick fever above a quarter of a year being most of y^e time distempered in his head, yet rational a little before his death.

15. Mr. Nowell buried. Serjeant Avery and Mr. Dwight sent from Dedham to discourse with me about a renewall of their motion to me.

Aug. 12. A great Eclipse of the Sun, though not fully totall here at Cambridge.

13. Mr. Vrian Oakes functus officio Præsidis admisit inceptores ad gradus in artibus.

18. Secundo concionatus sum apud Dedhamenses tale munus nullibi unquam nisi isthic aggressus.

20. I went to Ipswich and at Wenham had from Mr. Newman the full relation of y^e strange death of Thomas —
p. 10. Anno 1672

— Thomas Whitteridge his wife, who being a woman of no commendable life was by a fortune-teller told y^t she should meet with great trouble, if she escaped with her life: afterward being in great horror, Mr. Richard Hubbard gave her several scriptures to consider of. When he was gone she turned y^e Bible the best part of an hour saying there was another scripture if she could find it, w^c what it was or whether she found it being unknown to others she clapt the Bible too and said she would never look into it more, w^c by the just judgment of God she never did. At night she told her son, a youth about 12 or 13 years at y^e most, y^t it would be as y^e fortune teller had said — the boy desired his mother y^t she would not mind what he had said, for he believed that he was a lying fellow, but y^t she would mind what was said in the word of God. At this word she flew up saying (as some report) *He is come!* The door either by her or

of itselfe being opened with great violence she ran out. And being presently followed no sight could be had of her, but a shrieking or groaning or both was heard. The next morning there was to be seen a path made thrō the thickest places of weeds and briars as if a great timber log had been drawn there, which being followed her coat was found therein, and she a little further with her face thrust into a little puddle of water not sufficient to cover all her face, lying dead. *Quam inscrutabilia judicia Dei!*

Sep^r 15. *Concionatus sum Dorcestriæ.*

18. Major Lusher, Ens. Fisher, Serj. Avery, Mr. Dwight came to me with a second call from y^e church at Dedham for me to come to settle there at May next, and to preach as often as may be in y^e mean time.

26. It was referred to some of y^e Elders for advice who concluded it y^t I must go.

p. 11. Anno 1672.

Oct. 13. *Concionatus sum Dedhamiæ.*

16. Mr. Antypas Newman Pastor of y^e Church at Wenham dyed.

27. *Concionatus sum Dedhamiæ*, and there gave my answer to the Churches second call.

Nov. 3. *Concionatus sum Ipsvici primâ diei parte eodem die in Ecclesiam ibi admissus.*

13. Major Lusher mortuus. 18. Sepultus.

24. *Concionem habui funebrem qualem qualem Dedhamiæ in obitum Majoris Lusher Armigeri.*

Dec. 3. Interfui diei jejunii illic, quem Ecclesia celebravit.

7. Richardus Bellinghamus, Armiger, Rector Massachusettensis, mortuus.

10. Leonardus Hoare, Medicinæ Doctor, Collegii Harvardini Præses, Cantabr. N. A. inauguratus.

17. R. Bell. Rector prædictus inhumatus.

24. Dies Esurialis publicus, Dedhamiæ *concionatus sum.*

29. Dorcestriæ primus ad mensam domini accessi, postmerid. diei parte ibi *concionatus.*

Jan. 12. Cantabrigiæ *concionatus sum.*

26. Mrs. Lusher widow of Major Lusher Esq. died.

Feb. 23. *Concionatus sum Dedhamiæ.*

p. 12. Anno 1673.

March 13. Bridget Hoare, daughter of Dr. Leonard Hoare, President of Harvard Colledge in Cambr. in New-Eng. born about 3 of y^e clock in y^e afternoon.

21. The Castle burnt at Boston about a league from y^e town.

23. Concionatus sum Dedhamiæ.

24. The Church at Dedham y^e 3d time called me to come and settle there at May next.

25. Mrs. Clarke at Cambridge dyed.

26. I sent a letter to Elder Hunting in answer to y^e Churches call.

April 1. I went to Weymouth, heard Mr. Torrey.

20. Concionatus sum Dorcestriæ.

May 4. Concionatus sum Bostoniæ apud Ecclesiam Domⁱ Mather, post-meridianâ diei parte.

7. Mr. Vrian Oakes preacht y^e Election Sermon at Boston.

11. I preacht at Dorchester in exchange with Mr. Flint, who preacht at Dedham where his brother Seth lay sick. S^r Mather preacht y^e after part of the day for me at Dorchester.

12. Mr. Seth Flint, student of Harvard Coll. in his second years standing, died at Dedham.

14. Mr. Seth Flint interred at Dedham.

18. Concionem habui Dedhamiæ in memoriam dⁱ Sethi Flintæi, talem isto die Spiritûs divini influxum expertus ut illius in laudem gratiæ divini recordari debeam.

25. Concionatus sum Dedhamiæ.

27. This day (being also my birth day) I removed from Cambridge to Dedham to y^e solemn undertaking of y^e ministry there on triall for future settlement. As we were coming to Dedham my horse stumbled and I had a fall, thō I received no hurt; which caused me to reflect upon myselfe whether I had not been something lifted up, y^t there were so many come to attend on me, and to adore y^e wisdom and grace of God in y^t he can and doth effectually bring down high thoughts without bringing any reall hurt to his servants.

June 2. Mr. Seaborn Cotton preacht y^e Artillery Election at Boston.

11. I was at Cambridge Lecture.

14. I went to Rehoboth to exchange with Mr. Newman y^e Sabbath, y^e day following, who came down to see his sister, Mrs. Ruth Flint, who lay very sick almost without all hope of life. 16. I returned.

17. The new meeting house at Dedham raised.

18. I was at a fast at Dorchester.

19. Mrs. Ruth Flint dyed at Braintree a little before sunset.

21. I was at Braintree at y^e funeral of Mrs. Ruth Flint.

22. Mr. Watson of Hadley preacht for me one part of y^e day.

30. I went to Cambridge. July 1. to Ipswich. 4. to Salisbury.

5. Concionatus Sarisburiae po-meridianâ diei parte.

7. I returned to Ipswich. 9. to Dedham.

13. S^r Burrough preacht for me in y^e afternoon.

16. I was at Medfield Lecture. 17. I bought a horse for 3[£]

22. At Milton I bought a horse of Capt. Cudworth of Situate for 4[£] 15^s. 0^d. And Ezra Morse had y^e other 3[£] horse die 23d.

p. 13. Anno 1673.

July 29. About break of day in y^e morning Mrs. Dwight brought to bed of a son which was named Seth.

August 4. News brought y^t New York is taken by y^e Dutch.

19. The Church at Dedham passed a vote to desire me to joyn to them in order to future settlement.

Sept. 5. I went to Ipswich with Ensigne Fisher for my dismission. 9. We returned.

28. I was admitted into y^e church of Dedham by dismission from Ips.

29. The Church and inhabitants of Dedham agreed to give me y^e summe of 100[£] money or money's worth towards y^e purchase of a habitation for my settlement, to be paid at 3 mōths warning.

Oct. 8. Concionatus sum Medfieldiæ die Mercurii.

12. The Ch. at Dedham gave me an actual call to office.

19. I yielded myselfe to them in acceptance of their call.

Dec. 3. I was ordained Pastor of y^e Church of Christ in

Dedham, Mr. Wilson giving y^e charge, Elder Hunting and Deacon Aldis joyning in laying of hands: Mr. Danforth of Roxbury gave y^e right hand of fellowship.

Jan. 30. I was admitted to the freedom of y^e Commonwealth of the Massachusetts.

Anno 1674

Oct. 21. I was married to Mary Manning of Cambridge.

Nov. 11. I entered into Mr. Allin's house w^{ch} I hired of Mr. Dudley.

23. Mr. Danforth of Roxbury buried.

Dec. 23. Mr. Nehemiah Hubbard ordained at Cambr. Village.

30. Mr. John Oxenbridge buried at Boston.

Anno 1675. — *Bella, Indica bella!*

Aug 10. Admissus fui ad secundum gradum in Artibus in Coll. Harvard. in Cantabr. in Nov.-Angliâ sub reverendo Vriano Oakes Præside pro tempore.

Nov. 12. My daughter Mary was born just at y^e end of the day about 5 or 6 of the clock.

Anno 1676.

April 7. Capt. Gookin, Mr. Danforth, Mr. Stoughton, magistrates, and Mr. Eliot of Roxbury were thrown out of a boat into water and strangely preserved.

10. Gov. Winthrop of Connecticut arrived in Boston.

13. My daughter Mary dyed about 7 or 8 of y^e clock at night.

p. 14. Anno 1677.

March 26. My son Eliphalet (so named from y^e Lord's special preservation and deliverance of him and his mother from y^e danger y^y were both in at his birth) he was born about 2 or 3 hours before day.

Dec. 24. Mr. Thomas Shepard of Charlestown, y^t worthy servant of Christ in y^e ministry, and Son to y^e famous Mr. Shepard of Cambr. was buried, who dyed of y^e small pox then rife at Charlestown.

Anno 1678.

Jan: 17. My son William was born 3 or 4 hours within night.

Anno 1679. — June 24. My dear and loving wife departed this life after we had been married and lived together 4 years and 8 months, whereby I am bereaved of a sweet

and pleasant companion and left in a very lonely and solitary condition.

Aug 15. My son William deceased about 1 of y^e clock in the morning, being about 7 months old.

Anno 1680. — March 27. I was married to Alice Bradford daughter to Major William Bradford of Plimouth.

Febr. 23. My daughter Elizabeth was born 2 or 3 hours before daylight.

Anno 1681. July 24. Mr. Vrian Oakes Pastor of y^e Ch. at Cambr. and President of Harvard Colledge died.

Anno 1682.

April 3. My daughter Alice was born 2 or 3 hours before daylight.

[This is the last entry in the handwriting of Mr. Adams. The following items are added by another hand.]

Dec. 17. Betwixt 10 and 11 in the morning, in the year 1683 was William Adams born.

Mr. William Adams died Aug. 17. 1685.

Abiel * Adams was born Dec: 15. 1685 after her father's death.

Here ends the MS. Journal, from which we derive the following table of the family of Mr. Adams.

William, b. 27 May, 1650 ; ordained minister of Dedham 3 Dec., 1673 ; m. 21 Oct., 1674, Mary Manning of Cambridge. Their children were —

1. Mary, b. 12 Nov., 1675 ; obiit 13 Ap., 1676.

2. Eliphalet, b. 26 March, 1677.

3. William, b. 17 Jan., 1678-9 ; ob. 15 Aug., 1679.

Mrs. Mary, wife of the Rev. Wm. Adams, ob. 24 June, 1679. — He m. 2. Alice, d. of Major William Bradford of Plymouth, 29 March, 1680. Their Children were —

4. Elizabeth, b. 23 Feb., 1680-1.

5. Alice, b. 3 Ap., 1682.

6. William, b. 17 Dec., 1683.

7. Abiel * b. 15 Dec., 1685.

Mr. Adams nowhere in his Diary mentions the amount of

* Identical with *Abiah*, which is the more common feminine name. In a registry of baptisms, kept by the Rev. Eliphalet Adams, of New London, instances occur in which he registered the name *Abiel*, which, in the town record of births, is entered *Abiah*.

salary given him by his congregation at Dedham. Dr. Lamson, in his Centennial Discourses, states that he received but 60 pounds annually, and that one year he relinquished 8 pounds of this moderate stipend, on account of expenses incurred by the town during Philip's war.

From the same source we derive the following fact, illustrative of his patient assiduity in the investigation of divine truth.

"In a book afterwards used for the Parish Records, and still preserved, he began, a little more than two years before his death, an exposition of the First Epistle of Paul to Timothy, which he did not live to finish. His commentary is exceedingly elaborate and minute; and though it proceeds no further than the tenth verse of the first chapter, covers 63 quarto pages, in Mr. Adams's peculiarly small and compact hand."

Mr. Adams published, during his ministry, two sermons :

1st. A Sermon on a day of General Fast, 21 Nov., 1678.

2d. An Election Sermon, 27th May, 1685.

Of these discourses, the accomplished historian and critic, repeatedly quoted, says, in substance, that they are eminently practical, and breathe throughout a serious, devout, and fervent spirit. "The language is pure Saxon English, and has at times much force and vigor, though plain and unadorned." *

Alice, relict of the Rev. William Adams, was married in 1686 to Major James Fitch, of Norwich, Ct., being his second wife. Eight children were the issue of this marriage. Major Fitch had a large landed estate in the eastern part of Connecticut. He resided in Norwich till about 1696 or 1697, when he removed to Canterbury, where, at a place on the Quinnabaug river called Peagscomsuck, he had previously laid out some farms, and established tenants. He is considered the first settler of Canterbury, to which place it appears to have been his original design to give the name of *Kent*. *

* "A History of the First Church and Parish in Dedham, in Three Discourses, delivered on occasion of the completion, Nov. 18, 1838, of the Second Century since the gathering of said Church. By Alvan Lamson, D. D., Pastor of the First Church in Dedham."

† In a deed of 1699, on record in New London, Major Fitch styles himself "of Kent, alias Peagscomsuck."

In the family of Major Fitch, under the care of their mother, it is probable that most of the children of Mr. Adams passed their childhood and youth. As Major Fitch had six children by his first wife, only one of whom is known to have died in infancy, and Mrs. Adams could bring with her five from Dedham, including her step-son, Eliphalet, and to this number eight more were subsequently added, it may be imagined that this overflowing household would occasionally exhibit some stirring scenes, especially when they were all collected, of a winter evening, around a large New England fire. If, at such a time, two or three sleigh-loads of former companions from Norwich, gliding forth with merry bells to visit their friends in the wilderness, should drive up and pour in upon them, it is tolerably certain that feasting and sport would wear out the night, and that the noise, motion, and mirth would be sufficient to shake the stout plank floor, and to make the naked rafters quiver. Nor would the ancestral shadows, that flitted unseen around them, wholly frown on such a scene. The Puritan settlers of New England had more genial traits in their character than have been depicted in their portraits; and had the ancestors of these young people, — the upright Bradford, the venerable Fitch, and the youthful, but precise and irreproachable Adams, — been upon the spot, they would doubtless have blessed the feast and partaken of it, and while the other festivities proceeded, have sat in the next room, listening with complacency.

Elizabeth, the oldest surviving daughter of the Rev. William Adams, after her father's death, had been taken into the family of her mother's uncle, John Richards, Esq., of Boston, and by him educated.* It was, however, at Norwich that she became acquainted with her future husband and that her marriage took place.

Samuel Whiting, son of the Rev. John Whiting, fourth minister of Hartford, after graduating at Harvard University, prepared for the ministry by studying with the Rev. James Fitch, of Norwich, father of Major James Fitch. Mr. Whiting was one of the last pupils of that aged disciple. The infant settlement of Windham, lying north of Norwich, en-

* This is stated in an obituary notice of the lady.

gaged his services as a minister in 1692. He cast in his lot among them, kept the people together in one flock, gathered a church, and was ordained its first minister 4 Dec. 1700.*

The Rev. Samuel Whiting, 4 Sept., 1696, was married at Norwich to Elizabeth, daughter of the Rev. William Adams, of Dedham. She had then numbered but fifteen years and a half, — an age sadly premature to be invested with the cares and solemnities that devolve upon the wife of a laborious country pastor, and to be set up for a model to the whole parish for sobriety of demeanour, discreet conversation, and skillful housewifery. The fact itself is an attestation of superior merit, showing that she was sedate, wise, and accomplished beyond her years. They lived together twenty-nine years, and had thirteen children, eleven of whom, if not more, were living at the time of Mr. Whiting's decease, 27 Sept., 1725.

Several of these children became in after life distinguished persons. Col. *William* Whiting, the oldest son, commanded a colonial regiment during the war with the French on our northern frontier, and was noted for his personal bravery and noble military bearing. Anecdotes of his great strength and martial prowess are still related in the neighbourhood where he lived. His stature, it is said, was tall, his frame robust, with great breadth of chest, and a voice like the roar of a lion for loudness. He could give out words of command which might be distinctly understood at the distance of a mile.

John, another son of the Rev. Samuel and Mrs. Elizabeth Whiting, received a liberal education, and was settled in the ministry over the Second Society of Windham (Scotland Parish). After a few years he relinquished preaching, and sustained the offices of Judge of Probate and colonel of a regiment.

A third son of this family, *Nathan*, also bore the title of Colonel. Though descended from a peaceful stock, they appear, as a family, to have had a strong tendency to martial pursuits. Tradition asserts that the eminent mother of these heroes had, at one time, during the French war, sixteen sons and grandsons who held commissions in the army.

* Trumbull, Book I. Ch. 19.

Mary, youngest daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Whiting, born 24 Nov., 1712, was married to her father's successor in the ministry at Windham, viz., the Rev. Thomas Clap, 23 Nov., 1727. She was even younger than her mother when she entered into the marriage state, and scarcely past childhood, wanting a day of being fifteen years of age. She died 9 Aug., 1736, leaving two daughters, — *Mary* (married to David Wooster of New Haven) and *Temperance* (married to Timothy Pitkin, of Farmington). Mr. Clap, in 1749, was chosen President of Yale College.

Elizabeth, relict of the Rev. Samuel Whiting, after remaining a widow twelve years, was married, in 1737, to the Rev. Samuel Niles, of Braintree, Mass. The death of Mr. Niles, 1 May, 1762, left her to a second widowhood. She then removed to New Haven, the residence of her youngest child, Col. Nathan Whiting, and there lived till her death, 21 January, 1767. Her offspring at that period amounted to 160. This lady has left among her descendants the reputation of an eminent woman, — able, resolute, and pious.

Alice, second daughter of the Rev. William Adams, of Dedham, was married, 19 Feb., 1701, to the Rev. Nathaniel Collins, first minister of Enfield, Mass. It was at the house of Mr. Collins that his brother-in-law, Mr. Whiting of Windham, while paying a visit, was taken sick and died, Sept., 1725. Mrs. Alice Collins died 19 Feb. 1735.*

Of *William*, youngest son, and *Abiel*, youngest daughter of the Rev. William Adams, very little is known; the probability is that neither of them left posterity. William, as is learned from the fragment of a journal begun by his brother Eliphalet, was, in 1699, in a state of helpless infirmity.

Eliphalet, oldest son of the Rev. William Adams, and only surviving issue by his first wife, Mary Manning, has been purposely reserved to be mentioned last, not only because more could be said of him, but because it is only in

* The dates of marriage and death of Mrs. Collins, and likewise the dates of marriage and death of Mrs. Clap, before given, were kindly communicated by Nathaniel Goodwin, Esq., of Hartford.

his line that the name of the father is continued, and this memoir will be brought down to the present generation.

His youth appears to have been almost a copy of that of his father. He was left an orphan at the same age, with poverty, balanced by kind friends, for his portion. By the assistance of those friends he obtained an education, and graduated at Harvard College, 1694. It has been already mentioned, that, in the MS. volume which contains his father's Journal, he had commenced a similar record. The plan was pursued but for a very short period. What was written will be here given verbatim.

Eliphalet Adams
His Book Anno 1699.

Anno 1677. March 26. I was born a sinner into an evil world.

1679. June 24. My Mother died.

1685. Aug. 17. My Father left this evil world and left me an orphan to God's Providence and a wide world.

1696 Nov. 20th. I came first to Little Compton to preach amongst y^m.

1698 July 12. I was put in to be an Indian preacher by the Gentlemen who have the oversight of y^t work.

1699. May. I preached my first sermon to the Indians in their own language, with fears lest I should be a Barbarian to y^m but yy told me yy understood it well and accepted it thankfully.

Aug 28. I went to Conn^t to see my friends where the sight of my poor brother William (who is so weak as y^t he can neither stand nor go) damped my comforts y^t otherwise I might have had with y^e rest.

Sept. 5. I went with my brother Whiting to Hartford where the people of Farmington met with me and gave me an earnest invitation to come and exercise y^e work of the ministry among y^m.

14. I returned home with safety.

[Here ends the MS.]

The next fact ascertained in the life of the Rev. Eliphalet Adams is, that he was ordained pastor of the Congregational Church in New London, Conn., 9 Feb. 1708-9. His

brother-in-law, the Rev. Samuel Whiting, of Windham, preached on the occasion. His ministry in New London continued forty-three years, a period of honor to himself and usefulness to the town.

The Rev. Eliphalet Adams married, 15 December, 1709, Lydia, daughter of Alexander and Lydia Pygan, of New London. A short digression may here be allowed respecting the ancestry of Mrs. Lydia Adams.

Alexander Pygan settled in New London about the year 1666. The record of his marriage states that he was from Norwich, Old England. His conduct at first was not such as would lead to the supposition that he emigrated for conscience' sake, though in the end he settled down into a dignified magistrate and a sober Puritan. He was several times presented by the jurors, and arraigned before the courts, for offences against law, order, and morality. One of the complaints entered against him was by Rebecca Redfyn, "for enticing away her daughter's affections contrary to the laws of this corporation." On this charge he was dealt with and amerced by the county court. Whether the interference of the mother and the magistrates had the natural effect of enhancing the desire of the young people to be united is not known, but the nuptials were solemnized very soon after the presentment. "Alexander Pygan from Norwich, Old England, was married on the 17th of June 1667 to Judith, the daughter of William Redfin."*

Mr. Pygan's irregularities did not entirely cease with his marriage. In 1670, he was presented "for strange and passionate distempered carriage in his house." On this charge he was acquitted. In 1673, he was indicted "for presumptuous and illegal carriage in shooting the horse of Mrs. Ann Latimer": damages laid at thirty shillings. He was fined and bound over to good behaviour. At the same session of court, he was amerced for selling liquor to Indians. But here his offences seem to have terminated.

He was a man of great activity and enterprise in business. He established a tannery at the north end of the town, on the Mill Brook, and engaged largely, for the day, in mer-

* Probably Redfin should be *Redfield*. The latter name is still continued; the former is unknown to the place or its vicinity.

chandise. He had at one time a shop in Norwich, and sold goods extensively in Windham and other places.

By his wife Judith he had two daughters:—

1. Sarah, born 23 Feb., 1669–70.

2. Jane, “ Feb., 1670–1.

Mrs. Judith Pygan died 30 April, 1678. Subsequently, Mr. Pygan removed to Saybrook, and opened a house for public entertainment.

“This Court grants a license to Mr. Alexander Pygan to retayle wine, sider or Liquors in Saybrook during the Court’s pleasure, he suffering no disorder in his house. And the youth, or any other inhabitants in Saybrook be not entertayned and supplied with drink contrary to law or the damage of the town.”—*Records of County Court*, Nov., 1683.

While in Saybrook, he entered into a second matrimonial connection; the record on the town book of Saybrook is as follows:—“Alexander Pygan of New London, was married to Mrs. Lydia Boyes, late wife of Mr. Samuel Boyes of Saybrook, April 15. 1684.”

After this, he appears to have returned to his residence in New London, where his daughter

Lydia was born 10 January, 1684–5.

This was the only child of the second marriage.

Alexander Pygan died in New London early in Sept., 1700. The inventory of his estate amounted to £1372. His will is extant in the Probate files of the county. He bequeathed one fourth of his estate and £50 more to his wife; forty shillings in money to his wife’s son, Samuel Boyes, to buy him gloves and a ring; and the remainder of his estate to be equally divided between his three daughters.

“And whereas I have formerly given to each of my daughters, Sarah Hallam and Jane Green, a negro girl, so I do hereby declare that I have given unto my daughter Lydia, a negro girl commonly called Kate, and it is therefore my will that the said Kate shall not be reckoned or valued as any part of my estate.”

This testament was signed 12 Aug., 1700. On the 28th of August, same year, a codicil is added on account of the death of Sarah Hallam, which had intervened. In this instrument the bequest to her is revoked, and a legacy of

£10 only is left to each of her three children, Alexander, Edward and Sarah. To Alexander he bequeaths also his great Bible.

As Mr. Pygan left no son, this strange name has not been continued in our annals. It is not ascertained that any other person of the name ever emigrated to this country; nor has any relationship of Mr. Pygan with any other family been traced, except with the Belchers of Boston. Andrew Belcher of Boston stood in that uncertain degree of propinquity to Mr. Pygan which was designated by the term *cousin*. They were connected in the way of trade, and in their accounts frequently employ this familiar title, as in the following receipts:—

— “Boston the 2nd July 1698.

“Then Reckoned with my Cozen Alexander Pygan and there is due to him p^r acc^t bareing date this day one hundred and ten pounds eighteen shillings and 3d.—the Balance as p^r acc^t due him

“ And^r Belcher.”

“July 5. 1698. Rec^d of my Cozen Pigg sixty-six pounds money, carried to his credit

“ And^r Belcher.”

This Andrew Belcher is supposed to have been father of Jonathan Belcher, who in 1730 was Governor of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, and subsequently of New Jersey.

The New England Weekly Journal, printed in Boston, chronicles the death of Mrs. Pygan, relict of Alexander, in the following terms:—

“Mrs. Lydia Pygan died at New London July 20, 1734, aged 90 years, 4 months and some days. She was born at Saybrook March 9. 1644,* and was the first female child born in Saybrook: her mother was a Danforth.”

This paragraph was most probably furnished for the Journal by Mr. Adams, the son-in-law of the venerable deceased; we may therefore assume it to be indubitably correct. At the period of her birth, Saybrook could have been little more than a fort. It was sold that year (1644) to

* It is evident from the age of the lady, that this date coincides with New Style. The Rev. Eliphalet Adams had a peculiar mode of dating: instead of using the double date until March 25, as most of our fathers did, he continued it only through February, and began his year with March.

Connecticut, by Mr. Fenwick ; and very few families could have settled there previous to 1645 or '46.

It would have gratified the antiquarian, if the journalist had given the name of the father, as well as that of the mother, of Mrs. Pygan ; but here he is silent. Who, then, was her father ? Some investigations have been made to ascertain this point, and the result is, that her maiden name was probably *Bement*, or Beaumont. This conclusion is grounded on the following premises :—

The will of Abraham Finch of Saybrook was exhibited and approved in County Court, 1667. Legatees, Lydia Bement and Hannah Edwards. Subsequently, Samuel Boyes produced in Court a claim against George Tongue, of New London, for fifteen pounds, due to the estate of Abraham Finch, which he stated to be a part of the legacy given by the said Finch to "*Lilra Beumontt.*" Whereupon the Court ordered the said bill to be paid to Samuel Boyes, and execution allowed against George Tongue for the same. "Petition granted April y^e 13. 1669."

It is not positively stated in this transaction that Lydia Beaumont had become the wife of Samuel Boyes ; but it may fairly be inferred from the manner in which the two are identified in the claim. The marriage of Samuel Boyes was probably recorded in the oldest or first book of Saybrook Records, which book was destroyed by fire, when the house of Mr. Tully, the Town Clerk, was burnt, more than a hundred years since. All the other records were fortunately saved. Mr. Boyes probably died in 1683. The inventory of his estate was exhibited to the County Court in November of that year, and administration granted to Mrs. Lydia, the relict, assisted by Thomas Mecoock of Guilford. A division of the estate was also ordered, viz.: to the widow £250 ; to the son, Samuel, £380 ; to daughter Dorothy, £190.

This Dorothy is not afterwards presented to our notice. No reference to her, or to any descended from her, is made in the will of her mother.

Samuel, son of Samuel Boyes of Saybrook, was born on the 6th of December, 1673.

This is found recorded in a small account-book that had belonged to the Pygan family. We have but little further

knowledge of this person. His family, if he had any, may have been registered in Boston; for whenever he appears to us, he belongs to that place. An acquittance from Samuel Boyes, of Boston, to Eliphalet and Lydia Adams, of New London, for £10 devised to him by will of his mother, Mrs. Lydia Pygan, is dated 4th of Jan., 1737.

Sarah, the oldest daughter of Alexander Pygan, married, 8 July, 1686, Nicholas Hallam.

Jane, the second daughter, married, 29 March, 1694, Jonas Green. As these daughters were by the first wife, and not of Adams' blood, they belong no further to our Memoir. It will not be wholly irrelevant to our subject, however, to state a few facts relative to the family of one of them.

Jonas Green was from Cambridge, and probably an older brother of the elder Timothy Green, printer, who removed from Boston to New London in 1714. Jonas settled here, probably, before his marriage, and remained here, with the exception of one short interval, till his death in 1730 or 1731. He had seven children, all born in New London, except the second child, *Sarah*, whom the record states to have been born at Saybrook, 9 Oct., 1697. This *Sarah* was married, 15 June, 1716, to John Adams.

Pursuing our investigations, we find that John and Sarah Adams had eight children born and baptized in New London, and that they then removed, apparently with their whole family, to Boston. They dated from that place in 1734. Perhaps this John Adams, residing here for fifteen or sixteen years during the ministry of the Rev. Eliphalet Adams, and linking himself in the same circle of connections, might have been a near relative of that divine, — a son, it may be, of John, the brother of the Rev. William Adams, of Dedham. This may be left for future inquiry.

Children of the Rev. Eliphalet and Mrs. Lydia Adams:

1. William, born 7 Oct., 1710.
2. Pygan, " 27 Mar., 1712.
3. Mary, " 5 Mar., 1713-4.
4. Thomas, baptized 4 Jan., 1715-6.
5. Samuel, born 11 Aug., 1717; died, 5 months old.
6. Lydia, " 20 Feb., 1720; died 17 July, 1721.

The Rev. Eliphalet Adams was an exemplary and tal-

ented clergyman. His contemporaries praised him also for his learning. The Rev. John Barnard, enumerating the most eminent New England divines that he had personally known, characterizes Adams of New London as "*a great Hebrician.*"* His published sermons, taking into account the age, infancy of the country, and other circumstances, are fine specimens of pulpit eloquence. The following is a list of those printed sermons of Mr. Adams which are to be found in the library of the Connecticut Historical Society, in Hartford. It may not comprise all that he published.

1. "Christians to be ready"; delivered at a Lecture in Boston, 1706.
2. Conn. Election Sermon, 1710.
3. At the Funeral of the Rev. James Noyes, of Stonington, who died 10 Dec., 1719.
4. Funeral of Gov. Saltonstall, 1724.
5. Ordination of the Rev. William Gager, at Lebanon, 27 May, 1725.
6. Ordination of the Rev. John Owen, at Groton, 22 Nov., 1727.
7. Funeral of the Rev. John Bulkley, 1731.
8. Conn. Election Sermon, 1733.
9. Death of his wife, 1749.
10. Death of his daughter, Mrs. Mary Bulkley, 1749.

He was also the author of a valuable treatise, entitled "The Absence of the Comforter mourned and lamented."

Mr. Adams was a Trustee of Yale College from 1720 to 1738. These dates include that exciting period which followed the secession of Dr. Cutler, Rector of the College, to Episcopacy. The two members of the Faculty from New London, Gov. Saltonstall and Mr. Adams, were firmly united in counsel and opinion; and their influence upon the Institution was very great in that season of trial and perplexity.

In 1723, Mr. Adams was elected to the vacant Rectorship,† but he declined the office, doubtless on account of the disturbed state of opinion in the College, which made the station one of great labor and responsibility.

* Mass. Hist. Coll., Vol. X. p. 170.

† History of Yale College, by Professor Kingsley. The Principal of the College was then called Rector. The style of "President and Fellows of Yale College" was introduced by the charter of 1745.

Mr. Adams was often resorted to for counsel in cases of schism or perplexity in the churches of the Colony; and he also found use for great wisdom and discretion in managing the billowy elements of his own congregation. But he had a large heart, as well as an expanded mind; and his intellect and affections were not wholly exhausted upon his parishioners, and in ecclesiastical councils. He took many youths into his family, and prepared them for a collegiate course, or for the ministry, or for other departments of life. As an instructor, he was amiable and efficient. He was likewise assiduous in his endeavours to benefit the Indians in his vicinity. In this labor he was a worthy successor of the indefatigable Fitch, of Norwich, and led the way for a third excellent laborer in this vineyard, the Rev. Mr. Jewett, of New London (North Parish).

Mr. Adams had acquired a knowledge of the Indian language, as spoken by the tribes of Massachusetts, before his settlement in New London; and this gave him great advantage in his intercourse with the Moheagans, whose dialect was but a variation of the same language. He could readily converse with them so as to be understood, though in addressing public assemblies he found it necessary to secure the services of an interpreter. A Society of Gentlemen, in Boston, connected with a body incorporated in Great Britain, for the propagation of the Gospel in New England, employed Mr. Adams as their agent with the Indians in this part of Connecticut. Among his papers is found the draft of an address, delivered to a general assemblage of Moheagans, Sept. 9, 1725, in which he lays before them the propositions of the gentlemen of Boston, to have them instructed in the principles of the Christian religion, and to establish schools among them, in which their children might be taught to read and write; "that so you may live more comfortably in this world, and be happy for ever." "They will willingly," he continues, "be at this charge and expense for your sakes, and maintain ministers among you, who will make it their business to acquaint you with these things and teach you every Sabbath."

The Indians at this time, sad to relate, declined the favor intended them, and treated the subject with indifference, if not with disdain. No schools or meetings were then estab-

lished. From the same minutes of Mr. Adams, to which we have adverted, we learn that he repeated 'the generous offers of the Boston Society, "7 month, '32," to an assembly of Indians, "gathered from Monhagin, Pequod and Niantick: — Capt. Thomas Avery, Capt. John Mason, and Capt. Morgan interpreting to their understanding." Their reply, though not a refusal, was somewhat evasive. They said Mr. Fitch of Norwich had formerly preached to them, but they never well understood it; they were afraid they should not understand it now, and wished that the preaching might be deferred till they were able to understand it. "Yet," say they, "if at any time a short account of the principles of your religion be given, we will readily hearken to it."

The offer of a school they accepted thankfully, and requested that it might be established at Moheagan, and that it might be under the direction of their friend, Capt. John Mason, — the other tribes engaging to send their children thither. In these respects their wishes were gratified; a school was forthwith begun, under the teacher of their choice. By means of Mason's school, and other advantages, a knowledge of the English tongue was soon diffused among them, so that many were able to understand common English preaching to a considerable extent. This was a great blow to their heathenish observances. After this period they never clung very tenaciously to their peculiar superstitions.

The ministerial labors of Mr. Adams among the Indians, though often intermitted, were as often resumed, and continued to the year 1746. For several years he made a regular annual tour of preaching from tribe to tribe, reporting the result to Col. Winthrop and A. Oliver, Esq., active members of the Society in Boston. His memoranda, as jotted down in his note-book, were, for the year 1738, as follows: —

2023095

April 6. Preached at Mohagin to 30 Indians.

" 25. At Niantick: 20 Inds.

May 9. At Pequod: present above 20 Inds.

" 22. At Niantick. Only gave a few random exhortations as most of the Indians were gone to a dance at Mon-

hagin, and then to wait on the Court of Commissioners at Norwich which were to sit next day.

June 6. At Pequot. The Indians had been above a fortnight attending the Commission Court at Norwich: the Court was over, and they had returned home.

June 30. At Niantick. — Indians returned.

July 18. At Pequot.

Aug. 15. At Niantick. No Indians at home; heard the scholars read, &c. —

Sept. 17. At Mohagin: — above 30 Inds. present.

Oct. 6. At Mohagin — about 20.

Mr. Adams appears to have been correct and methodical in all his concerns. His church registry of marriages, baptisms, and admissions to the church, though crowded into a small compass, is probably full and complete. He wrote a fair and delicate hand, often so exceedingly minute as to make the diminutive calligraphy of his father appear large. The schedule of a sermon is frequently pressed into a surface of three or four square inches. He used abridgments, breaks, and short-hand in order to save time and space, and mnemonical words to assist his memory. His sermons and drafts of letters are rendered by these means almost wholly unintelligible. He was an accurate and beautiful copyist; and in his *Vade Mecum*, interspersed among skeleton sermons, are found transcribed whole numbers of the *Spectator*, various odes, poems, and epitaphs, in Latin and English, but chiefly of a political nature, anecdotes, choice scraps, arithmetical problems, and medical prescriptions, displaying a wide versatility of taste.

After the death of Mr. Pygan, Mr. Adams occupied the Pygan homestead with his mother-in-law: upon her demise it became his own. The house stood on the west side of Main Street, at the north end of the town, nearly opposite the Mill. The site was elevated, and a flight of stone steps, let into the bank, led up to it. A part of the roof was nearly flat, the other part very sloping. At either end stood a tall pine-tree. This venerable mansion, though spared by the enemy in the conflagration of most of the town, 6 Sept., 1781, has long been demolished. A single pine-tree, the last of the group, stands sentinel over the spot. The large

lot upon which the house stood was purchased by Mr. Pygan, about the year 1670, and has ever since been in the possession of the family. The Rev. Mr. Hallam, its present owner, acquired it by inheritance from the Adams branch of his ancestors.

The ministry of Mr. Adams was cast amid exciting scenes. The waves of religious enthusiasm rolled high around him. Fluctuations were prevalent, and the minds of men rushed to extremes. The Rogerene Quakers gave him much disturbance; the Baptists in his time founded their first church in New London; the Episcopal Society arose directly out of his congregation about the year 1730. The perfection of his character is shown, in that, amid all this change and progress, he kept his bark steady. In five months of the year 1741, from May to September inclusive, he records the accession of eighty members to his church. This shows that there was a great revival of religion that year.

Mrs. Lydia Adams died 6 Sept., 1749, aged 62 years and 8 months. She was seized with paralysis while spending the afternoon with her husband at the house of Mr. Samuel Edgecombe, a friend and neighbour, where she expired thirty hours afterwards. "A dreadful interval of time to me," said the sorrowing husband, "which no words of mine have power to express." On the next Sabbath, he delivered an affecting funeral discourse from Ezek. xxiv. 16: "Son of man! Behold I take away from thee the desire of thine eyes with a stroke."

The partiality of the speaker may, perhaps, have enhanced the virtues of the deceased, but the character he bestows upon her is interesting.

"She was ever compassionate and pitiful to the distressed, and courteous and hospitable to the servants of the Lord; her house, her table, and her heart was open to them; she rejoiced to see them, and they were satisfied with her agreeable entertainment. She was a faithful friend where she professed friendship. If any that she took for friends seemed to alter, yet she was not willing to throw them off in haste, and she had this rare quality of a true friend, that when she thought them manifestly faulty, she would tell them of it without fear or flattery, and never said more

behind their backs than she was ready to say to their faces."

In the course of the sermon Mr. Adams alludes, with warm expressions of gratitude, to the extreme kindness which had been shown to himself and family during their severe affliction. These attentions, he observes, were not limited to his own congregation. "All that came about us, seemed to be full of good will: I could read it in their looks, I could see it in their tears, — we felt it in the good offices they were ready to do, whether as ministers, (the Reverend Mr. Graves prayed with us again and again with much sympathy,) or physicians, or attendants, or watchers. Even those who have for some time separated themselves from our fellowship (for reasons best known to themselves) ran with the foremost to our assistance. Their words did good like a medicine, and they brought us some choice cordials out of the Holy Books, which we, taken up with our sorrows, might not so easily light on." This quotation is given to show that the rent which had taken place in the church had left unbroken the harmonious Christian intercourse of individuals. The Rev. Mr. Graves was the Episcopal clergyman. Mr. Edgecombe, at whose house Mrs. Adams died, was one of the first founders of the Episcopal Church. It was noticed that he had been baptized at the same time with her, 58 years previous, by the Rev. Gurdon Saltonstall. "And thither it seems," says the bereaved husband, "she must come to die; and there we found a most hospitable reception and entertainment, nor would they scarce bear to hear us express our sorrow for the trouble brought upon them, by reason of the attendance upon her, and the crowd of people that flocked in to see her day and night." *

Not long after the death of his wife, and while his heart was still bleeding from the sudden and painful rupture of its dearest ties, he was called to perform the funeral functions over the remains of his beloved daughter, Mrs. Bulkley, of Colchester. She died 21th Jan., 1749-50. Confined by sickness at the time of her mother's death, the heavy tidings was supposed to have hastened her own demise. "Such

* It is strange that a custom — that of crowding around the dying — so distracting to friends and attendants, and, in many cases, so injurious to the patient, should ever have been allowed. Yet it appears to have been universally prevalent in our country at former periods.

was the endearment between the two," says Mr. Adams, "that I may borrow the expression used in Canticles vi. 9, and say, she was the only one of her mother, the choice one of her that bare her." The sermon preached by the father on this occasion, from the passage, "Deep calleth unto deep; all thy waves and thy billows are gone over me," shows no decay of pulpit energy or of fine feeling. The language is full and flowing, and a tender earnestness pervades the whole discourse.

Original portraits of Mr. Adams and his wife Lydia, preserved in antique oval frames, are in the possession of the Rev. R. A. Hallam, of New London. They have been recently cleaned and revived, and are beautiful as pictures, as well as valuable for portraits. Mr. Adams has a noble aspect; cheerful and animated, yet benign. The countenance of his wife is delicate and attractive.

Mr. Adams contracted a second marriage, but no record in New London affords any clue to the date of the event, or the name of the lady. He lived with her but two or three years at the utmost. His will is dated 11 of Aug., 1752. In it he provides liberally for his wife, *Elizabeth*, securing to her all the estate and household goods she brought with her, the use of three eighths of the homestead, and improvement of six acres of land. He also gave her three cows, a negro boy named Peley, and lastly, "my two-handled silver cup, two silver porringers, and three silver spoons, such as she shall choose, all marked $E^A \times L$."

In the old burial-ground of New London, a table of red sandstone bears the following inscription:—

Here Lies the Remains of
The Rev^d. Mr. Eliphalet Adams,
Who rested from his Labours,
October 4th .AD 1753,
In the 77th year of his age.

So just the skies,
Philander's Life so Pain'd,
His Hart so pure,
then, or succeeding scenes
Have Palms to give,
or, ne'er had he been born.

It will be observed, that the quotation from Young in the foregoing epitaph intimates that a life of more than common trouble was the portion of Mr. Adams. It is supposed to refer, in part, to domestic trials in the latter part of his life; not only in the loss of wife and daughter, but to the long period of ill-health and confinement that his wife had previously suffered. "You all know," says the funeral discourse, "that God appointed unto her months of pain and even years of sickness." It may be supposed also, that the rupture in his church and parish — a rival existence, adverse in many respects, and wresting from him a portion of his prerogatives, springing up from the very bosom of his fold — must have been a blow to his peace and happiness, that fell with more than ordinary crushing power.

Another great schism in his society, and one which probably caused him still more annoyance, was that produced by what has been called the New Light Stir. Though no separate religious society was organized by the seceders out of the congregation of Mr. Adams, New London was the place where the greatest degree of frenzy was manifested. Here the meetings were most tumultuous, and here the famous bonfire was made of the idols and vanities. Mr. Adams kept out of the current of excitement, diligently employed in his duties, steadfast but conciliatory, and never acting on the aggressive. Standing thus firmly at his post, while the foundations rocked under him, he kept the body of his people together, though enthusiasm bore away here and there a convert from his fold. His task was rendered more difficult by the defection of his brethren in the vicinity. Mr. Jewett, of the North Parish, and Mr. Owen, of Groton, too manifestly sympathized with the enthusiasts. The wise and unyielding Mr. Adams was stigmatized by the popular frenzy as "a dumb dog that would not bark."

Mr. Adams, according to the custom of that day, had a number of house servants, born in his family and held in bondage. We may suppose, from his character, that he was a gentle and discreet master. The precision with which he chronicles the death of one of these servants in his note-book gives evidence of kindness and respect.

"1729. Sept. 17. York died about five of the clock in y^e morning, — aged above 70 years."

In 1738, his house servants, five in number, — Ishmael,

James, Ziba, Sylvanus, Phyllis, — he caused to be publicly baptized, and engaged for their Christian education.

We come now to speak of his children. He says himself concerning them, —

“The Lord hath given us 6 children, two whereof dying young, the others survive to this day, and by God’s blessing on the education that we were able to give them, we have no reason to be ashamed of any one of them. They have been no grief of heart to us.”

The death of Mrs. Bulkley, his only daughter, has already been noticed; but this interesting lady merits a more extended narrative. Her father says of her, that she was dear to every one wherever she lived; that she had so much sympathy as to make every afflicted person’s case her own; that from a child she knew the Holy Scriptures, and grew up, as he thought, in favor both with God and man. On the 13th of Nov., 1733, she was united to Dr. Jonathan Gardiner, son of John Gardiner, Esq., of the Isle of Wight (now Gardiner’s Island). This young man had been well educated, was possessed of a good exterior, and promising talents for business. He embarked in life both as physician and merchant. It was the fashion, or perhaps the necessity, of the times, to pursue various occupations at once. It may be doubted whether a man, at that time, could have well supported a family in New London by the practice of medicine alone.

Dr. Gardiner built a house in Bradley Street, which is still extant. It was then one of the most spacious in town, and thither he removed his young wife. About the same period he built a trading vessel, which, when completed, he fitted out with a valuable cargo, and sailed himself on the voyage to dispose of the adventure. Neither vessel nor cargo, owner or crew, were ever heard from afterwards. The ocean swallowed all.

This disaster was in the year 1735. Before leaving home, Dr. Gardiner made his will; it is dated in Jan., 1734–5. It was not exhibited for probate till three years afterwards. As soon, however, as the loss of the vessel was matter of fear and surmise, creditors in Boston, and others nearer home, who had advanced money and goods to Dr. Gardiner, became earnest for payment. Attachments, bills, and

executions came on thick and fast; demands were thrust in at the door-sill by night; so that the young wife took refuge, with her infant son, in the home of her youth, leaving the new house and all it contained to the creditors.

John, son of Jonathan and Mary Gardiner, was born 7 Oct., 1734. Mrs. Mary Gardiner was married 29 Oct., 1738, to John Bulkley, Esq., of Colchester, Conn. This gentleman was son of the Rev. John Bulkley, first minister of Colchester, and grandson of the Rev. Gershom Bulkley, minister, first, of New London, and second, of Wethersfield, Conn. He had graduated at Yale College in 1736, and soon acquired a high reputation for learning, integrity, and legal knowledge. At a very early age he was appointed a Judge of the Superior Court of Connecticut. Hon. Col. John Bulkley died 21 July, 1753, aged about 49 years.

Children of John and Mary Bulkley:—

Lydia,	baptized	28 Oct., 1739.
Mary,	born	23 May, 1741.
Eliphalet,	baptized	10 Aug., 1746.
Lucy,	“	27 Aug., 1749.

These survived their mother and lived to maturity. Others they had who died in infancy: for Mr. Adams, enumerating the trials of his daughter, mentions “loss of children.”

Mrs. Bulkley occupies the pleasing position of ancestress to John J. C. Brainerd, a man of taste and genius, the gifted poet of New London, and hitherto the only one which the town has produced.

John Gardiner, the child of Mrs. Bulkley's first marriage, settled in New London and married Sarah, daughter of Edward Palmes. He died a young man, but left three daughters. The eldest, Sarah, was married, 10th of Dec., 1783, to Jeremiah Gates Brainerd, Esq., afterwards Judge of the Superior Court. Of this union the poet Brainerd was the fourth and youngest child. He was born 21 Oct., 1796, and died, unmarried, 26 Sept., 1828. Those “grave and reverend seigniors,” William and Eliphalet Adams, are graced and honored by the appearance of this star in the line of their posterity. Brainerd was a man of original intellect, playful, humorous, full of fancy and sensibility, and, better than all, a sincere Christian. On the head-stone of

his grave, at New London, shines that passage, so full of rich promise, — “Thy brother shall rise again.” (John xi. 23.)

Lydia, daughter of John and Mary Bulkley, intermarried in 1761 with Robert Latimer. In this line it is supposed that no posterity remains. Capt. Latimer, a few years after his marriage, was accidentally knocked overboard at sea and drowned. Mrs. Lydia Latimer died in 1782.

Mary, second daughter of John and Mary Bulkley, married George B. Hurlbut. They had no children.

Lucy, third daughter and youngest child of John and Mary Bulkley, married Capt. John Lamb, of Groton, Conn. This couple left but one child, viz., Col. Henry T. Lamb, late of Wilkesbarré, Penn., who married one of the daughters of his uncle, Eliphalet Bulkley, and has left children.

Eliphalet, only son of John and Mary Bulkley, married Anna, daughter of Major Charles Bulkley, brother of his father. They had ten children, all born in Colechester; but the family afterwards removed to Wilkesbarré, where the parents died. Most of their descendants remain in Wilkesbarré.

Having thus mapped out the branches which descend from the Rev. Eliphalet Adams, through his only daughter Mary, let us turn to his sons.

William, the eldest, was sent to Yale College in 1726. Bibliothecal curiosity may be gratified by a memorandum, made by his father at the time.

Acc^t of Books y^t William Adams put up to carry to College,
Nov 5. 1726.

Elisha Coles Dictionary,	Catechisms, and Confessio
A Latin Grammar,	Fidei,
A Greek “	Latin Bible,
Tully’s Offices,	Septuagint,
“ Orations,	Florilegium Phraseon,
Virgil’s Works,	Phraseologia Anglolatina,
Horace,	Pasor’s Lexicon,
English Virgil,	Lucius Florus,
Greek Testament,	An English Bible,
Latin “	A Call to Backsliders,

English Exercises,	The Strong Helper,
Ovid de Tristibus,	The Everlasting Gospel,
Corderius' Colloquies,	The life of Mr. Edmund
Terence,	French,
Ramus,	The Songs of the Redeemed,
Mr. Willard's Penitent Prod- igal,	Nomenclator, Singing Book,
An English Dictionary,	Catechism,
Observations on the Present	Some of his father's Sermons.
State of Turkey,	—

Oct 23. 1727. He carryed the following books: —

Locke of the Human Understanding,
 Hebrew Bible, with Greek Testament at the end,
 Hebrew Grammar,
 Amesii Medulla Theologiæ,
 Burgersdicii Logica,
 Buxtorf's Lexicon,
 Clark's Formulæ,
 Allin's Alarm,
 Mr. Coleman of Mirth,
 Mr. Williams' Redeemed Captive,
 Flemming's Rod or Sword,
 Mr. Penhallow's Hist: of y^e Indian War,
 Mr. Flavel's Divine Conduct, or Mystery of Providence.
 Kennet's Roman Antiquities,
 Gordon's Geographical Grammar,
 Hist. of y^e House of Orange.
 Pope's Homer, Vol 2.
 Homer's Iliad,
 Dugard's Rhetorick,
 Locke of Education,
 Grotius, De jure Belli et Pacis,
 Sanderson, De Conscientiâ,
 " De juramento,

William Adams graduated in 1730, and was Tutor in Yale College from 1732 to 1734. He was, after this, a preacher of the Gospel for more than sixty years. Considering the length of his life, and the sphere in which his

duties were performed, it is strange that we should know so little of him, and that so few memorials remain of his mind and history. In the pulpit he never equalled his father; he was nevertheless a respectable preacher and an upright man. He never married, and was never ordained,—often declaring that he would not be encumbered with wife or parish. During a long life, he stood true to his purpose. He preached first in the North Parish of New London, and next in North Groton. At the latter place, a call, entirely unanimous, invited him to settle; but he declined. Had he been as cordially invited to become the successor of his father, perhaps he might have wavered; but the opportunity was not offered. After filling the vacant pulpit, as a temporary substitute, for nearly three years, the proposition to invite him to settle was negatived, 45 to 42. Perhaps the largest moiety of his ministerial labors was given to Shelter Island. He preached there at intervals for thirty years or more, and was probably the first minister that dwelt upon that island. He was at first an inmate of the family of Brinley Sylvester, Esq., the principal proprietor of the island; and after the death of this patron, in 1752, he resided with Col. Thomas Deering, the son-in-law of Mr. Sylvester. He was in this family at the time of Whitefield's visit to Shelter Island, in 1764.*

After a vacancy of some years, the mantle of the Rev. Eliphalet Adams fell upon Mather Byles, Jun., a brilliant young clergyman from Boston, to whose shoulders the venerable garment soon became an insupportable burden. At the end of ten years, he cleared himself from it with very little ceremony, and returned to Boston, declaring himself a convert to Episcopacy.

An interim of eighteen months was followed by the ordination of the Rev. Ephraim Woodbridge to the pastoral office in the vacant parish,—a man much beloved, but on whom consumption early stamped its seal. In less than 7 years he was followed to the tomb by a sorrowing congregation. An interval of eleven years succeeded (from 1766 to 1778), in which the Congregational Church had no settled minister.

* Prime's Long Island, p. 103

During all these vacancies, the Rev. William Adams was at hand, ready to stand in the breach, and supply the providential deficiency. Many times, especially in the tumultuous days of the Revolutionary war, would the flock have been scattered to the four winds of heaven, had not this amiable shepherd stepped forth with his crook and called them back to the fold.

The latter years of the life of Mr. Adams were all spent in New London, where he resided with his excellent sister-in-law, the relict of his brother Pygan. Some persons now living remember him well. He was short and stout; wore a white wig and a cocked hat; and when walking about the town, was usually arrayed in a black study-gown, confined by a belt. Fond of social enjoyment and domestic repose, he would often drop in to take tea with some staid matron, and, before he left the table, would (with permission) stow away in the bosom of his mantle slices of cake for future recreation.

Still, he never forgot that he was a minister. Offences shunned his presence; whatever was forbidden in Scripture was sure of his rebuke. He delighted to ramble into the country, and often made visits among the farmers belonging to the parish. These visits were perhaps most frequent during the season of trout, for he was fond of angling. But he never left a house without prayer and exhortation, and would have all the children of the family called up and placed before him in the order of their ages. He then lectured them upon their duties, asked some questions from the Westminster Catechism, and sternly reproved what he had seen or heard amiss in them. The Rev. William Adams died 25 Sept., 1798, in the 88th year of his age. It is not known that he left either property, or books, or manuscripts of any kind. One sermon was published by him. It bears this title:—

“Discourse delivered Oct: 23. 1760, on the Thanksgiving for the Success of the British arms in the reduction of Montreal, and the Conquest of all Canada. By William Adams M. A. New London. Printed by T. Green.”

Of Doctor Thomas Adams, third and youngest son of the Rev. Eliphalet, the following slender information is all that has been obtained. He graduated at Yale College, 1737, chose the practice of medicine for his profession, and died without issue, 1758.

Pygan, second son of the Rev. Eliphalet Adams, married, 7 June, 1744, Anne, daughter of John Richards, Esq. In this union there was a greater disparity of years than was common at that period; he being just her age in advance of his bride, that is, sixteen and a half years.

Their children were, —

1. William, ... born 20 Nov., 1747.
2. Alexander Pygan, “ 6 Sept., 1747.
3. Anne, ... “ 30 April, 1749.
4. Lydia, ... born and died 1751.
5. Elizabeth, ... born 21 Dec., 1752.
6. Lydia, ... “ 19 July, 1757.
7. Thomas, ... “ 5 Jan., 1761.

Mr. Pygan Adams, though a goldsmith by trade, entered very early into the mercantile line, and was active in it, making many voyages to the West Indies, as owner and factor of valuable cargoes of country produce. He amassed a considerable estate, which was, however, mostly dissipated in that era of commercial stagnation which preceded the Revolution.

He died in July, 1776, aged 64. His wife survived him thirty-five years. She died 8 January, 1809: born 18 Sept., 1728. The three sons of this worthy couple died afar from home and unmarried. Like their father, they early engaged in commercial pursuits, and in the course of business often visited those tropical climes, to which New England has sent so many of her sons for victims.

William died at St. Pierre, Martinique, 4 April, 1778, aged 33 years. Alexander P. was lost at sea in 1782, aged 35. Thomas died on the island of St. Martin's, 8 Sept., 1815, aged 54: he was the last male descendant in the male line of the family.

Thus we see that the line of William Adams (emigrating to this country probably before 1635, and settling at Ipswich), as continued through his son, William of Ipswich, and grandson, William of Dedham, after giving to the country for three successive generations a minister of sterling worth, becomes extinct in the male branch in the sixth generation (inclusive of the first emigrant), and the name is lost, on the death of Thomas Adams, 8 Sept., 1815.

The three daughters of Pygan Adams, Esq., are now all

that are left for this Memoir to trace. Each lived to a great age.

Anne, the oldest daughter, was married, 5 May, 1768, to John Champlin. Fourteen children were the issue of this marriage. Mr. Champlin removed with his family to Baltimore, where he died, 17 June, 1800, aged 54.

Anne, his relict, died in Baltimore, 6 April, 1838, aged 89. Two daughters of this family are still living in Baltimore. Of the whole 14 children, only two have descendants, viz. : —

William A. Champlin, who died in Charleston, S. C., leaving one daughter; and John Champlin, who left two daughters, since married, the one to John C. Pitt, of Laurel, Indiana; the other to Lewis B. Tupper, of Cincinnati.

Elizabeth, second surviving daughter of Pygan Adams, Esq., was married, 19 Oct., 1775, to Thomas Pool, son of John and Sarah Pool, of Raritan, N. J. Their children were, —

1. William-Adams, born 7 May, 1777; died 22 Sept., 1795, in the 19th year of his age.

2. Sally-Field, born 22 Feb. 1780: and two others, who died in infancy.

Sally F., the only surviving child, was married, 4 Jan., 1798, to Samuel Green, Esq., editor of the New London Gazette. She died 10 Mar., 1801, leaving an only son, who lived to maturity, but died 30 Nov., 1825, unmarried.

By these repeated bereavements, the posterity of Thomas and Elizabeth Pool, of two generations, became extinct, while they themselves were living.

Thomas Pool, Esq., died 26 Jan., 1828, aged 75. Mrs. Pool long survived her husband and descendants. She was a woman of cultivated taste, refined intellect, and uncommon vivacity. Her manners also were winning and affectionate. In conversation she was choice, fluent, and elegant. Moreover, she was a devoted Christian, full of benevolent feeling. The character of her venerated grand-sire, in a softened form, was resuscitated in her.

She died 21 Oct., 1845, in the 93d year of her age. Her tomb-stone wears this precious signet : —

“‘He giveth his beloved sleep.’ Ps. 127. 2.”

Lydia, youngest daughter of Pygan Adams, Esq., married, 17 Sept., 1779, Robert Hallam.

Robert Hallam, Esq., died 18 Feb., 1835, aged 78.

Lydia, his relict, died 29 Oct., 1845, aged 88.

The only surviving descendant of this pair is the Rev. Robert A. Hallam, Rector of St. James's Church, New London.

By a reference to the dates, it will be seen that Mrs. Pool and Mrs. Hallam died within a few days of each other. During the latter years of their prolonged existence, these venerable sisters dwelt together. To this venerated shrine the young went, as on a pilgrimage, to learn the history of the past, or to gain treasures of wisdom from the rich stores of experience. They attained respectively their 93d and 88th year, and then departed in the order of seniority. Mrs. Hallam lingered to hear the funeral service breathed over the coffin of her beloved companion, and then, without any added symptoms of disease, quietly yielded to the stroke of death.

